

indistinguishable in biological terms from all other members of the species."

The President and CEO of the biotechnology firm that recently announced its intentions to clone human embryos for research purposes, Michael D. West, Ph.D. of Advanced Cell Technology, testified before a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on December 2, 1998: "In this . . . procedure, body cells from a patient would be fused with an egg cell that has had its nucleus (including the nuclear DNA) removed. This would theoretically allow the production of a blastocyst-staged embryo genetically identical to the patient. . . ."

Dr. Ian Wilmut of PPL Technologies, leader of the team that cloned Dolly the sheep, describes in the spring 1988 issue of Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics how embryos are used in the process now referred to as "therapeutic cloning": "One potential use for this technique would be to take cells—skin cells, for example—from a human patient who had a genetic disease . . . You take this and get them back to the beginning of their life by nuclear transfer into an oocyte to produce a new embryo. From that new embryo, you would be able to obtain relatively simple, undifferentiated cells, which would retain the ability to colonize the tissues of the patient."

As documented in the American Medical News, February 23, 1998, University of Colorado human embryologist Jonathan Van Blerkom expressed disbelief that some deny that human cloning produces an embryo, commenting: "If it's not an embryo, what is it?"

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives took an important step in banning the cloning of human embryos. As this debate moves forward in Congress, I believe the National Right to Life Committee has made some very important points which we need to keep in mind:

NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE  
COMMITTEE, INC.

Washington, DC, July 26, 2001.

#### AMERICANS OPPOSE CLONING HUMAN EMBRYOS FOR RESEARCH

The biotechnology industry is pushing for a deceptive "cloning ban" sponsored by James Greenwood. This bill actually permits, protects, and licenses the unlimited creation of cloned human embryos for experimentation as long as those embryos are destroyed before being implanted in a mother's womb. It would more accurately be termed a "clone and kill" bill.

In the past, even major defenders of harmful research on human embryos have rejected the idea of special creation of embryos for research.

"The creation of human embryos specifically for research that will destroy them is unconscionable."—Editorial, "Embryos: Drawing the Line," Washington Post, October 2, 1994, C6.

"What the NIH must decide is whether to put a seal of approval on . . . creating embryos when necessary through in vitro fertilization, conducting experiments on them and throwing them away when the experiments are finished. . . . The price for this potential progress is to disregard in the case of embryos the basic ethical principal that no human's bodily integrity may be violated involuntarily, no matter how much good may result for others." Editorial, "Life is precious, even in the lab," Chicago Tribune, November 30, 1994.

" . . . We should not be involved in the creation of embryos for research. I completely agree with my colleagues on that score."—Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), 142 Congressional Record at H7343, July 11, 1996.

" . . . I do not believe that federal funds should be used to support the creation of human embryos for research purposes, and I have directed that NIH not allocate any resources for such research."—President Bill Clinton, Statement by the President, December 2, 1994.

"We can all be assured that the research at the National Institutes of Health will be conducted with the highest level of integrity. No embryos will be created for research purposes. . . ."—Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY), 142 Congressional Record at H7343, July 11, 1996.

" . . . The manufacture of embryos for stem cell research . . . may be morally suspect because it violates our desire to accord special standing and status to human conception, procreation, and sexuality."—Arthur Caplan, Director, University of Pennsylvania Center for Bioethics, Testimony before Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, December 2, 1998.

#### PUBLIC OPINION SPEAKS

"Should scientists be allowed to use human cloning to create a supply of human embryos to be destroyed in medical research?" (International Communications Research Poll, June 2001): No—86%, Don't Know/Refused—4.3%, Yes—9.8%.

"Do you think scientists should be allowed to clone human beings or don't you think so?" (Time/CNN Poll, April 30, 2001): No—88%, Not Sure—2%, Yes—10%.

So-called "therapeutic cloning," just like "reproductive cloning," creates a human embryo. These embryos are killed when their stem cells are harvested in the name of "medical research."

" . . . Any effort in humans to transfer a somatic cell nucleus into an enucleated egg involves the creation of an embryo, with the apparent potential to be implanted in utero and developed to term."—Cloning Human Beings: Report and Recommendations of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission (Rockville, MD: June 1997, Executive Summary).

"We can debate all day whether an embryo is or isn't a person. But it is unquestionably human life, complete with its own unique set of human genes that inform and drive its own development. The idea of the manufacture of such a magnificent thing as a human life purely for the purpose of conducting research is grotesque, at best. Whether or not it is federally funded."—Editorial, "Embryo Research is Inhuman," Chicago Sun-Times, October 10, 1994, 25.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate on the bill, as amended, has expired.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. SCOTT

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 107-172 offered by Mr. SCOTT:

Page 4, after line 8, insert the following:

#### SEC. 3. STUDY BY GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The General Accounting Office shall conduct a study to assess the need (if any) for amendment of the prohibition on human cloning, as defined in section 301 of title 18, United States Code, as added by this Act, which study should include—

(1) a discussion of new developments in medical technology concerning human cloning and somatic cell nuclear transfer, the need (if any) for somatic cell nuclear transfer to produce medical advances, cur-

rent public attitudes and prevailing ethical views concerning the use of somatic cell nuclear transfer, and potential legal implications of research in somatic cell nuclear transfer; and

(2) a review of any technological developments that may require that technical changes be made to section 2 of this Act.

(b) REPORT.—The General Accounting Office shall transmit to the Congress, within 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, a report containing the findings and conclusions of its study, together with recommendations for any legislation or administrative actions which it considers appropriate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 214, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This amendment would provide for a study by the General Accounting Office of this issue. That study would include a discussion of new developments in medical technology, the need if any for somatic cell nuclear transfer, the public attitudes and prevailing ethical views, and potential legal implications.

The developments in stem cell research are proceeding at a very rapid pace; and it is difficult for Congress, which moves very slowly, to take them into account. This amendment would keep Congress informed of the changes in technology and its potential for medical advance. It would also keep us advised of any need for technical changes to the bill to keep its prohibition on cloning effective and narrowly drawn.

Furthermore, this is an area where public attitudes and ethical views are often confused and uncertain. The study will be helpful in summarizing and clarifying those issues.

Mr. Speaker, some of the issues that we have to deal with have been reflected in the questions that have been raised on what the bill actually does: the potential for embryonic versus adult cell research, and issues such as the impact of the bill which would be in effect in the United States on medical treatments which may be available everywhere else in the world except in the United States.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCOTT. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this is an extremely constructive amendment. The gentleman from Virginia offered it during Judiciary Committee consideration and withdrew it because of jurisdictional concerns. I would hope that the House would adopt this amendment because I believe it would put additional information on the table to help further clarify this very contentious debate.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.